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MAN GUILTY OF MAIL AND WIRE FRAUD

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that **Darren Dequinn Jackson**, 37, of Manchester, pleaded guilty today to a two-count indictment for mail and wire fraud.

Jackson, a former resident of both Michigan and Florida, pleaded guilty to charges that he created and used a sham business to trick computer hardware vendors and suppliers of other merchandise to ship Jackson more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) worth of merchandise. Jackson then sold the merchandise, pocketed the money and left the area. The offenses were all committed in the Manchester area between October of 1997 and June of 1998. Jackson was indicted on April 2, 2003 after an exhaustive investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the F.B.I. into the numerous transactions involved in the scheme.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono commended the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the F.B.I. for their dedication and professionalism in patiently unraveling the complex transactions in the investigation. U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "The victims of white collar crime are often small businesses that can seldom afford the costs resulting from the fraud. My office is dedicated to protecting businesses that are victims of fraud by aggressively prosecuting those individuals who engage in schemes to defraud."

Jackson faces a possible maximum prison term of five years and maximum fines of \$250,000. Jackson's sentencing hearing was set by U.S. District Judge Joseph A. DiClerico, Jr. for January 30, 2004, at 9:00 A.M. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Alfred Rubega.